

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 1, 8, 15, 19, 26, and 41 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus for adding information to image data, said apparatus comprising:

first addition means for adding first identification information to a first color signal of the image data, wherein the first identification information ~~formed by a first color signal~~ is not easily recognizable by the human eye and relates to a copyright code;

generating means for generating second identification information; and

setting means for setting the second identification information in the image data containing the first identification information,

wherein the second identification information is not easily recognizable by the human eye and is different in form from the first identification information, and

said generating means comprises color conversion means for performing color conversion on the image data including the first identification information so that the first identification information in the color-converted image data is formed by a color-converted first color signal, and forming means for forming the second identification information by a second color signal different from the color-converted first color signal forming the ~~color-converted~~ first identification information in the color-converted image data.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously Presented) An image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the first identification information has a first block size, and said generating means forms the second identification information having a second block size.

4. (Previously Presented) An image processing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said setting means sets the second identification information having the second block size in the color-converted image data that includes the color-converted first identification information.

5. (Previously Presented) An image processing apparatus according to claim 4, wherein each of the color-converted first identification information and second identification information is formed by a yellow signal.

6. (Previously Presented) An image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the first identification information is formed by a signal for a thin color.

7. (Previously Presented) An image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the first identification information is set as a frequency component of the image data.

8. (Currently Amended) An image processing method for adding information ~~information~~ to image data, said method comprising:

a first addition step, of adding first identification information to a first color signal of the image data, wherein the first identification information ~~formed by a first color signal~~ is not easily recognizable by the human eye and relates to a copyright code;

a generating step, of generating second identification information; and

a setting step, of setting the second identification information in the image data containing the first identification information,

wherein the second identification information is not easily recognizable by the human eye and is different in form from the first identification information, and

said generating step performs color conversion on the image data including the first identification information so that the first identification information in the color-converted image data is formed by a color-converted first color signal, and forms the second identification information by a second color signal different from the color-converted first color signal forming the ~~color-converted~~ first identification information in the color-converted image data.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously Presented) An image processing method according to claim 8, wherein the first identification information has a first block size, and said generating step forms the second identification information having a second block size.

11. (Previously Presented) An image processing method according to claim 10, wherein said setting step sets the second identification information having the second block size in the color-converted image data that includes the color-converted first identification information.

12. (Previously Presented) An image processing method according to claim 11, wherein each of the color-converted first identification information and second identification information is formed by a yellow signal.

13. (Previously Presented) An image processing method according to claim 8, wherein the first identification information is formed by a signal for a thin color.

14. (Previously Presented) An image processing method according to claim 8, wherein the first identification information is set as a frequency component of the image data.

15. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing a program for implementing an image processing method for adding information to image data, said program comprising:

program code for a first addition step, of adding first identification information to a first color signal of the image data, wherein the first identification information ~~formed by a first color signal~~ is not easily recognizable by the human eye and relates to a copyright code;

program code for a generating step, of generating second identification information; and

program code for a setting step, of setting the second identification information in the image data containing the first identification information,

wherein the second identification information is not easily recognizable by the human eye and is different in form from the first identification information, and

said generating step performs color conversion processing on the image data including the first identification information so that the first identification information in the color-converted image data is formed by a color-converted first color signal, and forms the second identification information by a second color signal different from the color-converted first color signal forming the ~~color-converted~~ first identification information in the color-converted image data.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable storage medium according to claim 15, wherein the first identification information has a first block size, and said generating step forms the second identification information having a second block size.

18. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable storage medium according to claim 17, wherein said setting step sets the second identification information having the second block size in the color-converted image data that includes the color-converted first identification information.

19. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus for adding information to image data, said apparatus comprising:

first addition means for adding first identification information to a first color signal of the image data, wherein the first identification information ~~formed by a first color signal~~ is not easily recognizable by the human eye;

generating means for generating second identification information; and

setting means for setting the second identification information in the image data containing the first identification information,

wherein the second identification information is not easily recognizable by the human eye and is different in form from first identification information, and

said generating means comprises color conversion means for performing color conversion on the image data including the first identification information so that the first identification information in the color-converted image data is formed by a color-converted first color signal, and forming means for forming the second identification information by a second color signal different from the color-converted first color signal forming the ~~color-converted~~ first identification information in the color-converted image data.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Previously Presented) An image processing apparatus according to claim 19, wherein the first identification information has a first block size, and said generating means forms the second identification information having a second block size.

22. (Previously Presented) An image processing apparatus according to claim 21, wherein said setting means sets the second identification information having the second block size in the color-converted image data that includes the color-converted first identification information.

23. (Previously Presented) An image processing apparatus according to claim 22, wherein each of the color-converted first identification information and second identification information is formed by a yellow signal.

24. (Previously Presented) An image processing apparatus according to claim 19, wherein the first identification information is formed by a signal for a thin color.

25. (Previously Presented) An image processing apparatus according to claim 19, wherein the first identification information is set as a frequency component of the image data.

26. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing a program for implementing an image processing method for adding information to image data, said program comprising:

program code for a first addition step, of adding first identification information to a first color signal of the image data, wherein the first identification information ~~formed by a first color signal~~ is not easily recognizable by the human eye;

program code for a generating step, of generating second identification information; and

program code for a setting step, of setting the second identification information in the image data containing the first identification information,

wherein the second identification information is not easily recognizable by the human eye and is different in form from the first identification information, and

said generating step performs color conversion processing on the image data including the first identification information so that the first identification information in the color-converted image data is formed by a color-converted first color signal, and forms the second identification information by a second color signal different from the color-converted first color signal forming the ~~color-converted~~ first identification information in the color-converted image data.

27. (Cancelled)



28. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable storage medium according to claim 26, wherein the first identification information has a first block size, and said generating step forms the second identification information having a second block size.

29. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable storage medium according to claim 28, wherein said setting step sets the second identification information having the second block size in the color-converted image data that includes the color-converted first identification information.

30-40 (Cancelled)

41. (Currently Amended) An image processing method for adding information to image data, said method comprising:

a first addition step, of adding first identification information to a first color signal of the image data, wherein the first identification information ~~formed by a first color signal~~ is not easily recognizable by the human eye;

a generating step, of generating second identification information; and

a setting step, of setting the second identification information in the image data containing the first identification information,

wherein the second identification information is not easily recognizable by the human eye and is different in form from the first identification information, and

said generating step performs color conversion processing on the image data including the first identification information so that the first identification information in the color-converted image data is formed by a color-converted first color signal, and forms the second identification information by a second color signal different from the color-converted first color signal forming the ~~color-converted~~ first identification information in the color-converted image data.

42. (Previously Presented) An image processing method according to claim 41, wherein the first identification information has a first block size, and said generating step forms the second identification information having a second block size.

43. (Previously Presented) An image processing method according to claim 42, wherein said setting step sets the second identification information having the second block size in the color-converted image data that includes the color-converted first identification information.